

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ WAIVER REQUEST  
☐ RECONSIDERATION REQUEST

DATE: 12/30/2021

DOCKET#: 2021-1068

### FILER INFORMATION

Name: Crescent City Democratic Association- APPEARANCE  
Office:  
Parish:  
Election Date: 11/3/2020  
Level of Office: PAC

### REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: SPEC (15 Days)  
Original Due Date: 10/19/2020  
Date Filed: Report not yet filed.  
Activity: Receipts: 10/16/2020 - \$1,500 from Eric Skrmetta - Special Report  
Expenditures: N/A  
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: N/A

### LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$3,000  
Days Late: Report not yet filed.  
Late Fee Order Received: 12/30/2021  
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 1/19/2022  
Waiver Request Received: 12/17/2021  
Additional Information Requested:  
- Medical  
- Financial  
- Other

COMMENTS: Joe Sobol -request an appearance and states the following: The CCDA was scheduled to appear before the board this August of 2021. On August 17th 2021, Mr. Joel Manuel informed him that this matter no longer required him to represent the Crescent City Democratic Association and to appear before the board, leading him to believe that this matter had been settled. The CCDA is a one-person entity. They have no paid employees and do not work through every election cycle. They spend every penny that they take in on informing the electorate about election issues, or other non-profit causes. When they were made aware of the complaint, we formed a PAC and are making every effort to follow the rules that govern the PAC's.

### OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

#### Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: YES  
Other Outstanding Late Fees: No  
Prior Late Fees: No  
Reassessed Late Fees: No

#### Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No  
Prior Late Fees: No

**From:** CCDA <crescentcitydems@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, December 17, 2021 10:37 AM

**To:** David Bordelon <David.Bordelon@la.gov>; joebigeasy@cox.net

**Cc:** Elizabeth W Barrouquere <Elizabeth.W.Barrouquere@LA.GOV>; Suzanne Mooney <Suzanne.Mooney@LA.GOV>

**Subject:** Re: FW: Board of Ethics v. Crescent City Democratic Association, et al., Suit No. 2021-8510, Orleans Parish Civil District Court, State of Louisiana

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Mr Bordelon,

After our conversation on November 16th, 2021, I would formally request a waiver of the late fee assessments and any other fines that are applicable.

The CCDA was scheduled to appear before the board this August of 2021. On August 17th 2021, Mr. Joel Manuel informed me that this matter no longer required me to represent the Crescent City Democratic Association and to appear before the board, leading me to believe that this matter had been settled.

The CCDA is a one-person entity. We have no paid employees and do not work through every election cycle. We spend every penny that we take in on informing the electorate about election issues, or other non-profit causes. When we were made aware of the complaint, we formed a PAC and are making every effort to follow the rules that govern the PAC's.

I would very much like to represent the CCDA in front of the Board and ask for every possible act of forbearance, forgiveness, or leniency. Please let me know if there is anything else required of me to make that happen.

Thanks,

Joe Sobol

On 12/15/2021 4:29 PM, David Bordelon wrote:

Mr. Sobol,

I'm just checking to see if you're planning on submitting those waiver requests to the Board to try to reduce your assessed late fees. It would also allow us the opportunity to resolve the lawsuit that is currently pending.

I'm resending the details below.

I can't do anything until you provide the waiver requests.

**David M. Bordelon**

Staff Attorney

Louisiana Board of Ethics

Lasalle Building, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor

617 N. Third Street (70802)

P.O. Box 4368 (70821)

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Direct: 225.219.5605

Office: 225.219.5600

Toll Free: 1-800-842-6630

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**From:** David Bordelon

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2021 4:10 PM

**To:** [joe@bigeasyconstruction.com](mailto:joe@bigeasyconstruction.com); [joebigeasy@cox.net](mailto:joebigeasy@cox.net)

**Cc:** Elizabeth W Barrouquere <[Elizabeth.W.Barrouquere@LA.GOV](mailto:Elizabeth.W.Barrouquere@LA.GOV)>; Suzanne Mooney <[Suzanne.Mooney@LA.GOV](mailto:Suzanne.Mooney@LA.GOV)>

**Subject:** FW: Board of Ethics v. Crescent City Democratic Association, et al., Suit No. 2021-8510, Orleans Parish Civil District Court, State of Louisiana

Mr. Sobol,

Thanks for speaking with today. I hope I can summarize all of this information for you so that it makes sense.

The first issue is your waiver request of the late fee assessments. You must make that request in writing. Send it directly to me and I will make sure it is placed on our Board's agenda to consider. **If you can get that request to me by December 10<sup>th</sup>**, I can place it on the Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda for you to appear and state your case. Be sure to provide as many details as possible as to reasons for your waiver request.

The second issue is the lawsuit concerning the failure to file a statement of organization for 2020. If you agree, you can obtain the statement of organization here: <https://ethics.la.gov/CampFinanForms.aspx#CommitteeForms>. If you need assistance filing the form, let me know, I can have someone in our campaign finance section give you a call. Once that is filed, I would recommend to the Board that they not proceed with obtaining a civil penalty in court. You would likely have to pay the court costs associated with the suit, but would not be subject to the \$1,000 fine. NOTE: The Board is the only ones who can approve this, I can only make suggestions.

We have sent a Motion to Continue the hearing until after the Board can consider your requests. See attached.

Take some time to consider your options and let me know how you would like to proceed.

**David M. Bordelon**

Staff Attorney

Louisiana Board of Ethics

Lasalle Building, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor

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